



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Art Festival Moves the Big White Tent to Sandia Resort and Casino!

**Albuquerque, New Mexico** – Now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year, the Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival's legendary big white tent is on the move again and will be located closer to the Balloon Fiesta than ever before! For two consecutive weekends during the Balloon Fiesta, the 'Big White Tent' will be staked in front of **Sandia Resort & Casino!**

Artists and organizers are excited to be back in the heart of the action at Sandia Resort & Casino! The Festival was originally created to coincide with the Balloon Fiesta; to bring together a unique cross-section of patrons from across the globe with a juried national selection of artists and craftsmen. Benefits of this move will include increased tourist attendance & artists sales, visibility and easy access to the event, additional attractions at Sandia Resort and Casino, and of course a familiar backdrop of beautiful hot air balloons to add to the festive atmosphere of the event.

The Festival is not only the top ranking art show in the Southwest, but also nationally ranked at #10 by industry standard *Sunshine Artist Magazine*. It draws national artists to the NM art scene and promotes Albuquerque and New Mexico as art destinations for tourists. Spread the word about the new location of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival!

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**Festival Dates & Times** 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Weekends of October (Sept 30 - 2) and (October 7 - 9) | 9a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily

**Location** Sandia Resort & Casino

**Admission** \$8.00 | Kids under 12 Free | Free Covered Parking

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#### Event Features

- *200 juried fine artists and craftsmen from across the nation – showcasing a wide variety of mediums*
- *Continuous live entertainment on stage in the outdoor pavilion, alongside great food, drinks & spirits*
- *Specialty food area sampling salsas, dips, local honey and New Mexican fare*
- *Kids Creation Station where kids can create their own masterpieces free of charge*

#### About Sandia Resort & Casino

Sandia Resort & Casino is owned and operated by the Pueblo of Sandia. The Pueblo of Sandia is located at the base of the breathtaking Sandia Mountains. The Resort is less than 10 miles from the Albuquerque International Airport. Minutes from Historic Old Town and downtown Albuquerque, it's conveniently located off of Interstate 25, near Balloon Fiesta Park. For more information visit [www.sandiacasino.com](http://www.sandiacasino.com).

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